March 5, 1968

Dear Two:

No, really, I love to hear from you every hour on the hour! It's a bit overwhelming, I'll admit, but nice...

Thanks for answering my question about the Magazine Street address. It has really bugged me, especially since the neighbor, Eric Rogers, said that he saw L.H.O. at least once every day that he lived there and met him at the mailbox. Marina seems to have received her mail at the house, but Lee got his at the P.O. box. Marina was asked specifically about whether the mail was delivered at the house and said no, but in the exhibits you'll see that she received letters from Russia at the house. I'd love to ask Eric Rogers some questions.

Now about you. What on earth did you think you were doing, Lil, to pull a stunt like that? You'd better change your brand of liquor. You say nothing about any pain but you must have some, don't you? I Know that it must be a terrible nuisance if nothing else. Can't you have the typewriter on your lap? Ha!

About Oswald's Russian course. Colonel Folsom's testimony concerning that part of Oswald's record appears on page 307 of Volume VIII. I quote from the middle of that page:

"Mr. Ely. All right. Now, moving further down page 7, we have the record of a Russian examination taken by Oswald on February 25, 1959. Could you explain to us what sort of test this was, and what the scores achieved by Oswald mean?

"Colonel Folsom. The test form was Department of the Army, Adjutant General's Office, PRT-157. This is merely the test series designation.
Now, under "understands" the scoring was minus 5, which means that he got five more wrong than right. The "P" in parentheses indicates "poor." Under reading he achieved a score of 4, which is low. This, again, is shown by the "P" in parentheses for "poor."

"Mr. Ely. This 4 means he got four more questions right than wrong?

"Colonel Folsom. This is correct.
And under "writes" he achieved a score of 3, with "P" in parentheses, and this indicates he got three more right than he did wrong.
His total score was 2, with a "P" in parentheses meaning that overall he got two more right than wrong, and his rating was poor throughout."

~~Mr. Ely~~ The exhibit page dealing with the Russian course is page 662 of Volume XIX. Middle of the page. He seems to have been at El Toro, at Santa Ana, California, at the time he took the course. Look at page 658 of the same volume. I can read just a part of the last four entries at the bottom of the page, which includes the date of February 25, 1959 (the date he took the Russian test).

There are so many things I'd like to talk over with you in person. One of the most fascinating things to me is the episode (I can't find it, but it's some place in the awful exhibits) of a Mrs. Kaufman(n) in a town in Pennsylvania who found the stub of a railroad ticket and a leaflet advertising a trailer in her

trashpile. The ticket stub was for a trip taken from Miami to Washington, D.C. on about September 26, 1963, by a Julio Cesar F. or H.ernandez, Jr. Mrs. Kaufman was able to produce the ticket stub but was not able to find the trailer leaflet but remembered that it was for a "Kencrest" trailer or some such name and had the names Lee Oswald and Jack Ruby scribbled on the back. She said the name "Ruby" caught her eye because she thought it was a woman's name and one of her husband's flames. Her daughter at first agreed with the story, but later decided to agree that her mother was in such an emotional state over her impending divorce that she was wrong. But she was able to produce the ticket stub. There are several things interesting about this, don't you think -- or do you? This fellow left Miami at the same time that L.H.O. is supposed to have gone to Mexico. Also, his father J.C., Sr., was a newspaper publisher under Batista and had become disenchanted under Castro. I think he said his brother was still some kind of official in Cuba. The son, Junior, although he lived right there in the same house with the father, was apparently not questioned. Instead, the F.B.I. went to great lengths to get everybody to say mama is a nut. The family had been helped by a Cuban relief organization in Miami and a teaching position in the town in Pennsylvania secured for the senior F. or H. ernandez.

At the time I read about this, I had no idea that Cubans played such a part in the story. I'm surprised that I remembered this episode at all. I can't find it in the 26 volumes. I haven't made a big business of hunting it, however. At the time I read it, I was sensitive to anything in Pennsylvania because it kept popping up -- Everett Glover had made a trip to Pennsylvania and I believe George de Mohrenschildt's ex-wife Didi Sharples (now Mrs. Brandel?) had settled there. There were several other Pennsylvania things that I've forgotten now.

I just read OINO again and caught the date of the trailer-load of arms for an invasion of Cuba. It was intercepted on the 17th of October near Key Largo, Florida. On October 14, Ruth Paine wrote to her mother "No, I've given up the idea of a trailer." Then she says something about it being senseless to "put money that direction" and that she "needs mad money -- in this case, money to move east on in case I decide to give up all hope for the marriage. So if you come it will have to be to the southeast bedroom." At the time she wrote this, that trailer was just starting out to go east and then southeast. What's wrong with that? So I'm a nut. Women don't just naturally think and write of a bedroom in their homes as southeast, but as "the extra bedroom."

Another thing... When Lee and Marina came back into the United States in June of 1942, Lee was described as five and a half feet tall. I'm beginning to believe that the real Oswald never did come back ~~to Russia~~ from Russia (if he went at all). If it was the real Oswald interviewed by Priscilla Johnson, the only reason for telling her that he had studied Russian on his own would be that he couldn't let it out that he was being geared for this by the U.S.M.C. When he wrote to Robert from Russia, he said something like "you don't know me at all. You don't even know I know Russian." These are not the exact words, but the idea of them. If he made such a mess of the Russian course as the record indicates, he certainly improved a lot to make Mr. Gregory think he was a native Russian but with a Polish accent! That riding round and round Fort Worth with Mr. Gregory's son, Paul, while Marina talked Russian is a gem. It has the advantage of no possibility of "hugging." It was Paul to whom Marina was to deliver the message that the point of a play was that we don't need to fear a man with the rifle. That was in a letter to Marina from Eric or Pavel.

What's with Katya and Declan Ford? Katya Ford had come to this country with her first husband, Skotnicki (Stanley), whom she divorced because he wanted to make too

much money too fast, according to her. In Jack Ruby's address and telephone number book (Vol. XIX, page 77) appears "KAY LA8 8166
NICKI CH 7 9876"

Katya Ford is questioned quite a bit about her first husband and if she ever sees him and their relationship with one grocer, Mr. Graffigni. I'm not sure of the spelling, but that's close. Could Kay and Nicki be nicknames for Katherine and Skotnicki? Gary, Katya's young son by Skotnicki, said that Mr. Graffigni knew Jack Ruby. And Katya said that she supposed her ex-husband still kept up with Mr. G.

Do you remember the letter that Marina wrote asking leniency for Jack Ruby? She said she wrote it but never sent it. Her business manager, James Martin, said he saw her write it and that the stationery was some that he himself had bought her at a drugstore. Then Katya Ford said that she had copied it (don't ask me why but I guess so that it would be in English). Anyway, it was not copied by Katya but by Declan. And the original that was supposedly written by Marina is written by Katya! An interesting puzzle and no great harm done, but why all the lying about who wrote the things?

I wonder if there's been any real checking of the Murrets in New Orleans. In Lee's notebook, he has the notation "Quin, Murret". Rosaleen Quin(n) was the name of the girl (the stewardess who was taking a year or so out from her job to study Russian so she could work for the Embassy in Russia) that Oswald's buddy got him the date with. Gene Murret is the one I'd like to question since it was his idea that Lee talk with the young seminarians. That letter that Robert J. Fitzpatrick (one of the students) wrote to Marina does not ring true. He thanks her for the records and names them. Does this mean that Marina took a bunch of phonograph records with her when they went to Loyola Villa that weekend? Or did she spend the money (of which they had precious little, evidently) to send the records to him after their conversation? Does he tie in with the Cubans and the priests who were hauled in by the authorities several months ago. I believe Masferrer (Rolando) was part of that outfit.

You see why I hate to write to you? I don't have good sense about when to stop. I read and try to piece things together by myself. I don't know which direction the experts are going. I feel as if I'm looking at an iceberg with its one tenth showing.

I really am not at all concerned any more with my shy visitors, as you called them. I had a few bad days of being edgy about it, but since nothing else happened, I guess it was what had happened other times (but not so close together). The telephone calls bothered me more than the car business because it always was in the daytime when I was by myself. The breathing and then the click had an eerieness that was worse than the other, for some reason.

I want to get this into the mail tomorrow on the way to St. Louis. I think about you both so much and hope you are coming along all right with the injury, Lil, and you with your diet, Harold.

Love,